PATENT -- AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL
Response Under 37 CFR 1.116--Expedited
Procedure - Examining Group 2134

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An electronic processing device, comprising:

    (a) a user interface to interact with a user;

    (b) location detection electronics;

    (c) processing electronics connected to the user interface and the location detection electronics;

    (d) memory to store a plurality of geographically-unique passwords, wherein each geographically-unique password is associated with one or more of a plurality of geographic regions, the memory connected to the processing electronics;

    (e) a gatekeeper to access the processing electronics when a password input on the user interface is the same as at least one of the plurality of geographically-unique passwords in memory and when the location detection electronics inputs a present location to the processing electronics that is one of the plurality of geographic regions with which the input password is associated.

2. (Currently Amended) A method to establish a geographically-unique password in an electronic processing device, comprising the steps of:

    (a) invoking a user interface of the electronic processing device;

    (b) entering a description of a first geographic location;

    (c) creating a first geographically-unique password;

    (d) associating the first geographically-unique password with the first geographic region;

    (e) enabling the electronic device when the electronic device is in the first geographic region only when the first geographically-unique password is entered by the user.

Docket No.:   ROC920000240US1
Serial No.:   09/804,358   2

PATENT -- AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL
Response Under 37 CFR 1.116--Expedited
Procedure - Examining Group 2134

3.   (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the step of entering a description of a first

geographic region further comprises:

(a) obtaining the GPS location from GPS processing electronics within the

electronic processing device; and

(b) creating boundaries by extending a selected distance from the GPS location.

4.   (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the step of entering a description of a first

geographic region further comprises:

(a) delineating the boundaries of the first geographic region using a graphical user

interface on a map containing the first geographic region.

5.   (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the step of entering a description of a first

geographic region further comprises entering the longitude and latitude coordinates of the

boundaries of the geographic region.

6.   (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the step of entering a description of a first

geographic region further comprises entering a street address associated with a

geographic region.

7.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, further comprising:

(a) entering a description of a second geographic region;

(b) creating a second geographically-unique password associated with the second

geographic region.

8.   (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising:

Docket No.:   ROC920000240US1
Serial No.:   09/804,358   3

(a) assigning a priority to the first and second geographic region.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, further comprising:

(a) allowing the user to enable the electronic processing device in the second region by entering the first geographically-unique password if the first geographic region is of higher and/or equal priority than the second geographic region and the electronic processing device is in an area of the second region overlapping an area of the first region.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the step of creating a geographically-unique password further comprises:

(a) inspecting the geographically-unique password to determine if it is valid according to password generation rules.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the step of creating the first geographically-unique password and the second geographically-unique password further comprises inspecting the first and second geographically-unique passwords to determine if they are valid according to password generation rules.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the password generation rules for the first geographically-unique password are different than the password generation rules for the second geographically-unique password.

Docket No.: ROC920000240US1
Serial No.: 09/804,358   4

13.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the step of enabling the electronic device when the electronic device is in the first geographic region only when the first geographically-unique password is entered by the user, further comprises determining the present location of the electronic device using GPS signals processed by GPS processing electronics within the electronic device.

14.   (Currently Amended) A method to restrict access to an electronic processing device, comprising the steps of:

    (a) invoking a user interface of the electronic processing device;

    (b) determining the present location of the electronic device;

    (c) entering a ~~geographic-specific~~ geographically-unique password;

    (d) enabling the electronic processing device only when the ~~geographic-specific~~ geographically-unique password is associated with the present location of the electronic device.

15.   (Currently Amended) A method to protect an electronic processing device from unauthorized use, comprising the steps of:

    (a) invoking a user interface of the electronic processing device;

    (b) entering a description of at least one geographic location by a method selected from the group of methods consisting of: obtaining the GPS location from GPS processing electronics within the electronic processing device and creating boundaries by extending a selected distance from the GPS location, delineating the boundaries of the first geographic region using a graphical user interface on a map containing the first geographic region, entering the longitude and latitude of the boundaries of the geographic region, and entering a street address associated with a geographic region;

Docket No.:   ROC920000240US1
Serial No.:   09/804,358   5

~~(c) creating at least one password;~~

[[(d)]] (c)   associating ~~each of the~~ at least one geographic-unique password with one of the at least one geographic ~~region~~ regions;

[[(e)]] (d)   determining the present location of the electronic processing device using GPS signals processed by GPS processing electronics within the electronic processing device;

[[(f)]] (e)   assigning priority to the at least one geographic region;

[[(g)]] (f)   allowing the user to use the electronic processing device in the at least one geographic region by entering the at least one geographically-unique password if the at least one geographic region is the geographic region associated with the at least one geographically-unique password or if the at least one geographically-unique password is associated with a geographic region of higher or equal priority that contains the at least one geographic region.

16.   (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture, comprising a data storage medium tangibly embodying a program of machine readable instructions executable by an electronic processing apparatus to perform method steps for operating the electronic processing apparatus, said method steps comprising the steps of:

(a) storing a plurality of descriptions of geographic regions;

(b) storing a plurality of geographically-unique passwords, the geographically-unique passwords being each associated with one or more of the descriptions of geographic regions;

(c) assigning a priority to each of the plurality of descriptions of geographic regions;

(d) determining the present location of the electronic processing device; and

Docket No.:   ROC920000240US1
Serial No.:   09/804,358   6

(e) allowing a user to use the electronic processing device in the present location by entering an input password if the present location is within the description of the geographic region associated with the input password.

17.   (Currently Amended) A secure electronic processing device, comprising:

(a) means to store a plurality of descriptions of geographic locations in which said secure electronic processing device may be enabled;

(b) means to store a plurality of ~~geographic-specific~~ geographically-unique passwords, each of said passwords associated with ~~each~~ at least one of said geographic locations;

(c) means to determine the present location of said electronic processing device;

(d) means to determine that said present location is one of said geographic locations;

(e) means to request an input password from a user;

(f) means to enable the electronic processing device only if said input password is one of said ~~geographic-specific~~ geographically-unique passwords pertaining to said present location.

18.   (Original) The secure electronic processing device of claim 17, wherein the means to determine that said present location is one of said geographic locations further comprises a GPS antenna and GPS processing electronics.

Docket No.:   ROC920000240US1
Serial No.:   09/804,358   7